

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the Specification

Please amend the second paragraph on page 9 as follows:

The selection of surfactants according to this invention will likewise be within the skill or the art following the disclosure herein. For example, in the test examples below, the stabilizing surfactant can be a compatible nonionic surfactant, such as the SURFYNOL[®] liquid nonionic surfactants (available from Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., Allentown, Pennsylvania), particularly the 400 Series, such as the 440, 465 and 485 products, which are ethoxylated acetylenic glycols. The chemical nomenclature for SURFYNOL[®] surfactant is ethoxylated-2,4,7,9-tetramethyl-5-decyne-4,7-diol. The SURFYNOL[®] surfactants have variable ethylene oxide contents. For the 400 Series, the ethylene oxide content is varied from 40 to 85% by weight. The 440, 465 and 485 surfactants have ethylene oxide contents of 40, 65 and 85%, respectively. Other surfactants can be selected from the PLURONIC[®] and TETRONIC[®] lines of surfactants (available from BASF Performance Chemicals, Parsippany, New Jersey), particularly the "L Series" EO-PO-EO type or the "R Series" PO-EO-PO type. PLURONIC[®] and TETRONIC[®] surfactants are block copolymers of ethylene oxide and propylene oxide. The "L Series" EO-PO-EO surfactants are polyethylene oxide-polypropylene oxide- polyethylene oxide triblock copolymers. The "R Series" PO-EO-PO surfactants are polypropylene oxide-polyethylene oxide- polypropylene oxide triblock copolymers. Other commercially available surfactants for formulation according to this invention will be known to one skilled in the art.

Please amend the third paragraph on page 9 as follows:

This invention was tested using standard METRIKA A1c test kits available from Metrika, Inc., Sunnyvale, California. The test kits, as supplied, include the Sample Dilution Buffer, which contains a hemolytic zwitterionic surfactant, which is ~~Zwittergent~~ ZWITTERGENT[®] 3-14 available from Roche Applied Science, Roche Diagnostics Corporation, Indianapolis, Indiana. The chemical nomenclature for ZWITTERGENT[®] 3-14 is N-hexadecyl-N,N-dimethyl-3-amino-1-propanesulfonate. Some of the test kits were used as supplied for comparison, and some of the test

kits were modified by adding a nonionic surfactant to the Sample Dilution Buffer solution in the amount shown in the following test results. The surfactant selected for the tests was SURFYNOL[®] 485 nonionic surfactant available from Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., Allentown, Pennsylvania.

Please amend line 13 on page 10 as follows:

~~Surfynol[®] 485~~ SURFYNOL[®] 485 to the STB restored unit performance to its original level prior to stress – when

Please amend line 15 on page 10 as follows:

condition. This was true for a range of ~~Surfynol[®] 485~~ SURFYNOL[®] 485 concentration from 0.5% to 3.0% w/v

Please amend line 16 on page 10 as follows:

(weight of ~~Surfynol[®] 485~~ SURFYNOL[®] 485 per volume of SOP STB).

Please amend line 28 on page 10 as follows:

45°C stability was improved to 3-4 months when 0.5% - 1.0% ~~Surfynol[®] 458~~ was SURFYNOL[®] 485 was added to